## GALLEY HEAD LIGHTHOUSE.

### RETURN to an Order of the Homourable The House of Commons, dated 15 August 1879 ;- for,

COPY "of Report to the Commissioners of Irish Lights, by Professor Tyndall, F.R.S., of an Inspection of GALLEY HEAD LIGHTHOUSE on the 9th day of May 1879; together with OBSERVATIONS on that REPORT by the Inspector of Lights and the Engineer to the Irish Lighthouse Board."

Board of Trade,

405.

T. H. FARRER

9 May 1879.

# - No. 1. -

REPORT of Professor Tyndall, F.R.S. In compliance with the desire of the Commissioners of Irish Lights that I

should visit and report upon the new lighthouse at Galley Head, I quitted London on the morning of 8th May, joined the "Princess Alexandra" at Milford in the evening, and reached Galley Head on the following day. At my request, the Commissioners were good enough to invite Captain Cole,

their chief inspector: Mr. William Douglass, their engineer; Captain Galuey, Commander of the Princess Alexandra; and Mr. Wigham, inventor of the system of illumination special to Galley Head, to be present during the observations.

I examined in the first place the quadriform dioptric apparatus employed for the concentration, direction, and multiplication of the light. I was also present during the rehearsal of the experiments to be subsequently made affort. The glass of the apparatus seemed singularly free from string and other mechanical defects. Looked at normally, moreover, it appeared very transparent; but on looking at it obliquely, so as to cause the light reaching the eye to traverse considerable thicknesses of the glass, the colour was of a decided green. The influence of this colour may be of small practical moment; but, so far as it is operative, its action is to withdraw from the heam a fraction of the particular rays which are most effectual in penetrating a hazy or foggy atmosphere.

The light at Galley Head has been named by Mr. Wagham " the group-flashing light," the finshes being produced by a method perfectly nevel in lighthouse illusination. The occultation of a fixed light, as first illustrated by Mr. Babbage, may be effected by causing opoque screens to close at certain intervals automatically round the light; or the occultation may be produced, as at Wicklow Head, by the lowering at given intervals of a gas flame. The arrangement at Galley Head is totally different from either of these. Here a flame of a certain width, determined by experiments made at Rockahill, and described in my report to the Board of Trade of 18th September 1871," sends forth a beam of such divergence as to cause it to occupy fifteen seconds in possing over the eye of the mariner. But instead of allowing it to pass continuously, as in the ordinary revolving light, a simple automatic apparatus cuts up this broad beam into a series of flashes, sufficient in number to ensure that they can never wholly escape the attention of the moriner, and in each of which a flame of great power is brought into play. A lowner

A burse of 68 jets was found on the occasion above referred to admirably author to these sols. In ordinary sentent a single laters of this description, placed, as in a revolving light, at the common forms of eight annular lense, is employed at Galley Hend. Four time of such lenses are exceed, one above the exploration of the common forms of the common forms. As the vesther thickens, these bursons are ignifical in succession, the first the light, if the adjustments to correct being sensity doubled, trelled, and quadrupled, when the hidden, trifeen, and quadriform arrangements are respectively brought into play.

At the usual sunset hour, the single 68-jet burner was iguited, and it continued burning up to 8.50 p.m., when the experiments began. We were then equidistant from Galley Head and the Old Head of Kinsale, being 12; miles from both. The night was a dark one, neither moon nor stars being visible; but though the upper atmosphere was filled with heavy clouds, the lower air was clear. Commencing with a power of 12 burners, we ascended through successive stages to a power of 108 burners, then fell to a power of 28 burners—the automatic flashing of the light being continued throughout this entire series of experiments. The 12-jet burner yielded two bright flashes, the 28-jet burner three brilliant flashes, the 48-jet burner four strong flashes, the 68-jet burner five powerful flashes, while the 108-jet burner produced seven flashes of still greater intensity. The flashes here enumerated were, in each particular case, of sensibly the same strength; but besides these gushes of full power, each series was heralded and ended by a flash of minor intensity. With the larger burners, moreover, when the observer was placed in the angular space between two successive beams, a residual speck of light was observed wisking in synchronism with the rise and fall of the flame within the apparatus. No mariner could, in my opinion, be in the least degree embarassed by the effect here described.

Indeed, this intermittent speek enabled to clearly to retilin one of the principal advantage of the Galley Head Light. The speek occurrily, represented the aspect of a fixed light when enfectled by distance or thickish warber. A great number of daining loads were about on the might of the eth, and had the speek here fixed, it could so thave been clintingwished from the lights of the bass. It would have thereafted cost a multifact of huminous roducts of approximately it would have the more one of the contract of huminous roducts of approximately its follows, a conforming of the stone light with the skip its fights being thereby merited minoscally.

In the next series of experiments (time 0.83), the apparatus was employed as an ordinary recording light, the shinging being suspended; and instand of the beam from a single burner, the quadridering being suspended and instand of the beam from the four 26-55 burners, which whellow as trong libral conditions. The mathefactory, required its seconds to pass over the observer's eye. The heavily factor for 69-55 burners, which yielded sight means superior indicately to that of the 28-56 burners, which yielded sight means superior indicately to that of the 28-56 burners, bad, as before stated, a duration of fifteen seconds. It is this withouts of the heavy outside of the apparatus as the diameter of the

burner inside is increased, that enables the 68-jet beam to be cut up into the five powerful flashes and the two minor flashes already alluded to.

The segmented intensity of the beam from the length burner is to be accretified the intensive almoster of insulusual larger from which the resistant conner. Supposing the radiation through any laws to enamate from a like of the law could be resistant through any laws to enamate from a like of the law could be supposited. There would be noiseness of insoulty. Dut if contemporate with the larger laws of the root of the root

Withing to test still further the increase of intuntity as the number of joint were augmented, arrangements that been made for stopping the supraison, and smelling the beam for a time in a fixed direction. During this interval, it was a three properties of powers, from the 28 to the 108-jet subject. The time of the time of the time of the beam that before we recovered it the two first errors of the beam of the beam, that before we recovered it the two first errors are the time of time of the time of time of the time of the time of the time of time Recurring to the group-flashing (time 9.55) and beginning with the single burner of 68 jets, we passed to the biform, triform, and quadriform in succession. The burnes, as might be expected, sugmented in intensity as the number of burners increased, the flash from the quadriform being very pomerful.

Rendering the beam again fixed, we stound across it with the view of observing sny variations in incentity which might exist at different purs of its transverse section. The observation, which was inferior in delicary to that of the fishets, corroborated the conclusion drawn from the latter, that the body of the beam is of nearly the same intensity throughout, the fall to obscurity as its cloque being asplice.

Returning to the single 68-jet flashing light, we steamed out until it dipped beneath the horizon. In the cloudy air above the ligisthouse every pole of the flame was distinctly visible, after the direct beam had disappeared. I cannot but think that these atmospheric turills will prove of great importance to the martier, even in atmospheres thick enough to render the light itself invisible.

At 10 minutes peat midisplit, the 68-jet quadriform was again breight into action, we being them 21 miles from Gill-yr Baeld. On the bridge of the steamer the stimospheric patter only were visible; but according to the top of the decklowes, the light itself cause into view, its white bases extring the eye as if the perfect of the contract of the contract of the contract of the contract to the contract of the contract of the contract of the contract of the mergy-set of these powerful contract of the cont

My impression at the time was that, so the whole, I had never seen a finer light. Whising, however, to check my orm pidgment by that of an independent and experienced observer, at the canchison of the experiments I saked Mr. Douglass whether he knew of any light which, in point of power and distinctiveness conchined, came up to that of Gulley Head. His reply was that be knew of none.

The programme of the night's experiments was carried out with accuracy and promptitude by Mr. Young, with the assistance of the light-keepers. I append the programme which summaries the night's observations.

Testimosise reporting the Galley Band Light—Pron a report presented to the Bard of Three on the 18th Superiors 1971, \*1 quote the Galley Band the Light of Three Galley Galley Band (Control of the State of Three Galley G

The light at Galley Head, which was started at the beginning of last year, is the outcome of this suggestion; and I have now to adduce additional evidence in justification of my recommendation to the Board of Trade, that the groupflashing light should have a full and fair trial upon the coast of Ireland.

During my experiments at Rockshill, in September 1871, I was honoured by the company of Sir Leopold My Cilitatock, who, in a letter addressed to Mr. Wigham, on the 18th September 1871, thus expresses hisself: "No better means could be devised for distinguishing a light from other lights than this plan of a group of flashes. The half-minute interval between the group's is quies sufficient, and yet not greater than can easily be estimated by the observe, without having recorner to a watch to measure the time; and the periods recurring within 45 seconds, that short time is sufficient to determine which light it is, and both those are goven practical obstratages. I consider that the suprisc brilliancy of got to oil, and its applicability both to revolving and fixed lights, is most astifactoring trainability at an at regard the proposed change solely from the seemast point of view, I took exclusively to the relative efficiency, without any regard whaterer to their comparative cost."

In September 1874, the preliminary experimental arrangements, devided at North Bally to Elimitate the construction and the power of the trifferm light, was impected by Sir William Thomson. From a letter addressed to Mr. much pleasure in reporting upon the experiments on the Howth Bally Lighthouse arrangements, which I witnessed from Saltfull on the evening of the 21st September, and from my purch to the creating of the 22nd September.

"1st. The great fog-power of 108-jet burners showed as immease superiority of light over the ordinary light of the lighthouse. The quick transition from the ordinary light to the high power was very remarkable, and seemed most satisfactory. Next day I was very much pleased to see, at the lighthouse itself, the simple and thoroughly trustworthy apparatus by which this transition was made.

" 2nd. The trium light subbited from the lower position, in the neighbourhood of the chief owner, was striking! superior even in the great fog-power of 108 burners exhibited on the best of the proper subbited on the best of the street of the street of the street, which shappily channed to pass during our experiment between this bill Hotel and the lighthouse, completely edipsed the light of the chief tower, while the triffers still show exceptionally through the still show the street of the street of

The two weighty authorities here cited based their conclusions upon experiments made with apparatus temporarily erected at Howth Baily and Rockabill. I have now to refer to the testimony of scamen with regard to the merits of the light permanently established at Galley Head. Before me are various testimostals from commanders on the Inman, White Star, and Cunard lines of steamers, all of which speak highly of the light. Captain Pulson considers it "one of the best in the Channel, being both clear and unmistakable." The testimony of Captain Watkins, who observed the light from a distance of 20 miles, is to the same effect. Captain Leitelt describes it as "the most marked and unmistakahle light" he ever saw. Captain Laud calls it "a splendid light, easily distinguished by its marked character." Captain Brooks, who had an opportunity of viewing the light in very hazy weather, pronounces it "a most excellent light, which can be easily distinguished from every other light on the coast." Captain Kennedy considers it "one of the best and most powerful lights in the Channel." Captain Gleadell affirms it to be "a most powerful, strongly-marked, and appropriate light, and of great service to shipping navigating that part of the Irish coast, it being so readily distinguished from any other in its vicinity." Captain M Mickan, who observed the light at distances varying from three to 18 miles in showery weather, states that it could not possibly be mistaken for any other light which he had ever seen. He considers it a very great advantage that the light can be increased in thick weather, and finally describes it as "one of the most important, useful, and brilliant lights in St. George's Channel."

To the foregoing strong testimonials I would venture to add those of Mr. Spectrus to the Marian Disputerson, Board of Trains, and of the Hamilton, Spectrus to the Marian Disputerson, Board of Trains, and of the Hamilton, and the Hamilton of the Hamilton

markedly increased; and that the ordinary light still being invisible, the quadriform not only illuminated the fog, but actually became visible."

The testimony of Mr. Hamilton, given on the same date, is to the same effect—"The night I saw the quadriform light tried against the ordinary light at Howitz Bolly was a very forgo; oos, and I districtly remember how the power than the same date, is to the power than the same date, in the same date, is the same than the same date, and the same date of the same date of the same date, and the same date of the same date, and the same date of the same date of the same date of the same date, and the same date of the same date of the same date of the same date, and the same date is to the same effect of the same date, and the same date is to the same effect of the same date, and the same date of the same date of the same date, and the same date of the s

Concluding Remarks.-No words of mine could add any force to the consensus of evidence here brought forward. And when we remember the calamities which have occurred even in the neighbourhood of lighthouses, through inability to see the light, it surely behoves us not to throw away the chance of mitigating such calamities by the employment of a light capable of hebaving in thick weather in the manner described by Sir William Thomson, Mr. Gray, and Mr. Hamilton. I only know is deed of one circumstance which could legitimately interfere with the extension to other important points on the Irish coast of the system of gas illumination, and that is inordinate cost of production. Regarding this point ample data must be in existence, and the Board of Trade, which has hitherto shown a marked liberality towards Mr. Wigham, has here, I think, a right to demand the fullest and most distinct information. The necessary and unavoidable accompaniments of the use of gas ought obviously, when the expense of this illuminant is in question, to be carefully kept spart from unnecessary ones. And here I am tempted to offer a remark which may be considered to lie beyond the strict limits of the present report. The cost of the lighthouse at Galley Head and of its adjuncts must have been very considerable. The quantity of land inclosed is large, a corresponding length of wall being needed to inclose it. The buildings are erected in the most substantial fashion, a finish being given to the doors, windows, and copings which must have entailed considerable expense. I will not say that in the long run it may not prove a wise economy to have incurred this outlay. But, with the exception of the gas-house and its appurtenances, it is not an outlay necessarily connected with the mode of illumination at Galley Head. Were oil instead of gas the illuminant employed, the expense of the buildings might have been substantially the same.

In conclusion, I would observe that gas lends itself with admirable freedom to any change in its mode of application which it may be thought desirable to make. The suppression, for example, of the flashing apparatus at Galley Head, would convert that light into an ordinary revolving light, surpassing any other in the world. Indeed, were the power of the burner reduced to 48 jets instead of 68, the light, with its full strength invoked, would still transcend all other revolving lights. Even the 28-jet burner would furnish a besutiful light. But the advantage of the present mode of illumination consists partly in the intensity and partly in the duration of the 68-jet beam, whereby the flashes are rendered so numerous and so powerful as to confer upon the light the individuality universally ascribed to it. I need not dwell upon the obvious fact that, broken into flashes, the 68-jet beam involves the expenditure of little more than half the amount of gas which would be required to feed it if used as a continuous light. It may be added that the 48-jet burner, with its four fisahes, or the 28burner, with its three flashes, would constitute a highly distinctive light; but I should deprecate the economy which would reduce either in number or power the flashes now sent forth from Galley Head.

William Lees, Esq., Secretary Commissioners of Irish Lights.

405.

I have, &c. (signed) John Tyndall.

The second secon

# APPENDIX to No. 1.

PROGRAMME.

Number of Ex- periments.	Time.	Character of Lights.	Number of Jets.	Number of Lenses.	Position of " Princess Alexandre,"
	p.m. 8.40	Grosp-fluiding	68	1	121 miles of beli-way to
1	0.10	- ditto	12		Old Head, Kinsale.
4 0	B. 0		93		
2 2	8. 5		44		
3	0.10		68	1	- ditto - ditto.
4	8.15		108	1	- ditto - ditto.
5				1 1	- ditto - ditto.
0	0.20		28	1 1	- ditto - ditto.
7 8		Revolving	28	4	- ditto - ditto.
8	9.30	- ditto	68	4 1	- ditto - ditto.
	0.35	Fixed beam	28	1	- ditto - ditto.
10	9.40	- dicto	48	1	- ditto - ditto.
11	9.40	- ditto	68	1	- ditto - ditto.
12	2.50	- ditto	198	1	- ditto - ditto.
1.5	9.55	Group-flashing	66	1	- ditto - ditto.
14	10.0	- ditto (Biftern)	88	2	- ditto - ditto.
15	10. 5	- ditto (Triform)	68		- ditto - ditto.
18	10.10	- ditto (Quadriform) i	88	4 1	- ditto ditto.
17	10.15	Fixed booss -	88	1	Sterming acress bearn.
18	10.30	Group-floshing	65	- 1	
19	19.0	ditto	cs		Horizon's About 21 will-
20	19,15	- date (Quadriform)	. 08		ditto distant from
- 1	19.30	- ditto	68		ditto   Galley Head

- No. 2. -

# OBSERVATIONS of the INSPECTOR of LIGHTS.

Sir, I may the honour to inform you that, in obdience to the Board write. I have carefully studied Professor Tyndall's report on his recent impection of the geslight at Gelley Head, and must remark that I regret that report does not supply certain information which I consider the Board ought to possess before they at any time docide to adopt the same arrangement and system in

any locality where it may in future be found necessary either to establish a new or change an existing one. The night of the experiment was an exceptionally fine one, with clear atmosphere; the light was, therefore, seen under most favourable circumstances, which, while their addresses.

which, whilst being salvantageous in certain respects, did not afford an opportunity of showing the extent to which the maximum power of the light would be of use.

The ordinary single set of 68 burners produced a good light, there being

I he ordinary engine set of 68 burners produced a good light, there being hut little difference between it and the one displayed from Kinsale Head; and I should suggest that an accurate comparison should be drawn between the expense incurred in producing these two lights.

Secondly, the increase in the light species by arbunding from one set of 60 kmrses to the quantitys form of the same, vin, 272, disposed in four dere, required to produce the light school to the increase of the set of the propertical to the three production of gas and the lights existing in the United Kingdon, certainly would not in any way to the distinct to approach the electric light in intensity or illuminating power. The same was observable in increasing from 26 to 68 kmrses; and beyond the increased number of the fashes yield under a production; it would have

been

heen impossible to estimate accurately the comparative power of the different lights.

Furthermore, when using the four sets of 68 burners, what I must consider a none serious decipie presented itself, amongs, a very storog reflection of the flatiest taking place at a period when, projectly pre-large, there should leave projectly a state of the projectly probable, the project of the man size of the projectly them used to the projectly them used to the projectly them used to the although possibly fewer might be study inappreciable in thisis weather (vist of which at present we have no period, bodiest some the case, the nature of he light, when using the quadruple force of 68, hocients completely altered, and a stranger massware of the president of the projectly and the projectly of the projectly decipied to the projectly d

Again, the difference in the number of the fashes produced, when using different powers, tends also to destroy the character of the light, and renders it less distinctive than it should be. This defect is one entirely to an injudicious serrangement of the hourses, which for the minimum power required should be distributed round the circumference of a circle, capable of containing within its perpicely all the hourses, required to the maximum rouner, the, 60. Were this system adopted, as is the case in the carried to be contained to addition control of the difficulty hourses internally instead of externally.

I have before notioned on the very small difference which exists between the lights at Kinsel Head and their at Galley Head, when using the ordinary eld-jet burner, and must dawn the Board's siteration to the fact that the fired light at the former can het a cone increased skided without any annual increase in the consumption of oil, or consequent expense, simply by altering the power of the contract of L consider is fairly advisable that the relative excepts between the uses of

gas and parafin oil as illuminating mediums abould be carefully obtained for the information of the Barrl, and that a careful investigation should be made into the expenses incurred at present in the manufacture of gas, with a view to seeing how far they can be reduced below 11, per 1,000 entile feet, which is about that present cost; and next year I propose to solt the Board for certain around items connected with the manufacture of gas, to be undered for a six named in the second of the second control of the second control of the care to effected. Paractical experience in the case of lighting towns by gas and praufin, above

that light for light the cost of the latter is three-fourths that of gas at 3 s. 8 d.  $p_{\rm cost}$  in the latter is three-fourths that of gas at 3 s. 8 d.  $p_{\rm cost}$  in the latter is the latter in latter in the latter in the latter in the latter in latter in the la

I here to rigresors to the Board that I consider the establishment of the light as Galley Head to be one of those approaches which will having at eventually to a knowledge of the scientific nuc of gas as an illuminant; but in the present sate, very face of perfection, on account of the vant of administry in the light when using different powers, a disproportional production of light when large values of gas as cally dissimilated of the value of the present of the control of the con

I have, &c.
(signed) Joshua Cole, Com., B.N.,
Inspector.

The Secretary, Irish Lights Board.

#### PAPERS REL

# — No. 3. — OBSERVATIONS of the Engineer to the Inish Lighthouse Board.

Irish Lights Office, Dublin,

Sir, 5 June 1879.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Board, that I bave

read Dr. Tyndail's report of the experiments observed from the "Princess Alexandra," on the 9th ultimo, and fully agree with him when he describes the Galley Head Light, hurning the single 68-jet hurner, as an extremely fine, steady light.

The first five observations consisted in observing the effect of an increase in the power of the single burner from 12 jets to 28 jets, from 28 to 48, from 48 to 58, and from 68 to 108 jets. At each change I noticed an increase in the to 58 jets. The single power of the contraction of the increased consumption of the contraction of the leght from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the light from the large burner was not within the focus of the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the contraction of the large three contractions are contracted by the large three contract

The 12 jc buser produced only two flates, while the 10-jct burser produced over a three-fore, as the changing of the size of the lumer caleages the number of fashes in a light of the same classores as Galley Head, and in number of fashes in a light of the same classores as Galley Head, and in state of the same classores as Galley Head, and in state of the same classores as Galley Head, and in state of the same classores are considered to the process of these lights in thick weather. With conductive fixed light, increasing the same of the hazarons to obtain general professions, the same classores are considered to the same and the same classores are considered to make a diagogar judice, as walledwing a large burner for a small required to make a diagogar judice, as well-sticking a large burner for a small result of the same considerable produced to the same considerable produced

rog, as required.

The system adopted at Galley Head requires a large consumption of gas.

During clear weather a 28 jet burner, especially in a revolving light, ought to
give sufficient light for the mariner's requirements, and be visible at the
horizon. At Galley Head the 68-jet burner is constantly used.

The residual or reflected flashes were seen distinctly at the long range of 21 miles. Although I am not prepared to state that the mariner would be likely to be misled by them, still they appear to me as a defect that mars the perfection of the light.

Dr. Tysakl, in quoting my testimony to the excellence of the right, has tasted that which I feer may mished the floated at on year calligate respecttable of the respective of the respective of the respective of the electric of the respective of the respective of the respective electric of the respective of the respective of the respective and decide accuracy of our less respect in a very difficult to compare to however of lights, and the respective of the respective of the respective of the respective of the respective and decide accuracy of the respective of th

William Lees, Req., I remain, &c.
Secretary, Commissioners of Irish Lights.

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OFFY of Environ to the Communication of John Lights, by Professor Typolog, 22.8., of an Lappoints of Outsire Energ Lapporton on the day of May 1870, depoles with Grassmonton or that Batters by the Improfes of Lights and

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